We claim:

1. A method of separating stereoisomers of benzoporphyrin derivatives (BPDs) by a capillary electrophoresis system, which method comprises:

separating, after injection of a sample containing said BPDs, stereoisomers by said capillary electrophoresis system,

wherein the capillary inner diameter, capillary length, field strength, separation temperature, pH, buffer system, ionic strength, chiral selector, and organic solvent are selected to result in separation of BPD stereoisomers.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said capillary electrophoresis system comprises a laser-induced fluorescence detection system.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said BPDs are selected from BPD-MA, BPD-DA, or mixtures thereof.

4. The method of claims 1 or 2 wherein said separation is baseline separation.

5. The method of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein said capillary inner diameter is about 50 μm.

6. The method of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein said capillary length is from about 27 to about 57 cm.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said capillary length is about 37 cm.

8. The method of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein said field strength is from about +15 to about +25 KV.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein said field strength is about +20 KV.

10. The method of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein said separation temperature is from about 15 to

about 30°C.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein said separation temperature is about 20°C.

12. The method of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein said pH is from about 8.05 to about 9.6.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein said pH is from about 9.2.

14. The method of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein said buffer system is borate.

15. The method of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein said ionic strength is from about 200 to about 360 mM borate.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein said ionic strength is about 300 mM borate.

17. The method of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein said chiral selector is a bile salt.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein said bile salt is a cholate salt.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein said cholate salt is sodium cholate.

20. The method of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein said organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of DMF, isopropanol or acetonitrile.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein said organic solvent is acetonitrile.